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MSA Executives Draft Resolution on CIA Backing

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A flurry of activity resulted in campus student government yesterday after it was learned that the National Student Association (NSA) has been partially subsidized by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) since the early 1950s.

Linn Aakhus, Minnesota Student Assn. (MSA) international vice president, will head an executive committee to draft a resolution for presentation to the MSA senate Thursday after it is "ironed out" in an executive committee meeting today, Vice Pres. Jim Nathanson said last night.

PRES. HOWIE KAIBEL and course evaluation chairman Steve Parliament, grad student, have flown to NSA headquarters in Washington, D.C. Both are members of the NSA National Supervisory Board.

The regional NSA is to meet Friday night to discuss "quite thoroughly" the recent CIA news, according to MSA Sen. Denis Wadley.

The activity centered around Ramparts magazine's full-page ad in the New York Times yesterday stating NSA's CIA connections. Richard Stearns, NSA international vice-president affairs, said the relationship was "intolerable and inconsistent with the idea of an open, democratic student organization" and that, as of Jan. 1 of this year, all subsidizing was ended.

REP. DONALD FRASER (D., Minn.) yesterday said the CIA has no business being involved in the National Student Assn. and that he favored public hearings on the basic question of government agency support to groups.

The CIA's "covert relationship" to NSA has stimulated "widespread demand (in Congress) that this kind of exploitation by the CIA be terminated," he said.

The CIA matter further erodes confidence abroad in U.S. student international programs and travel, which are "supposedly free of government involvement," Fraser said.

HE SAID THE CIA involvement is destructive because NSA programs are legitimate and could be financed openly by the government and private foundations.

Yesterday morning, in an emergency meeting of MSA leaders, including present and former NSA members, and foreign student representatives, several opinions came to light:

Kaibel said it is evident that over the last two years NSA has been trying to get rid of CIA funding, but that there is still an implication of doubt of NSA.

Gregg Delin, grad student and NSA director of Asian programs last year, said that it will take a long time to find out what is going on, and that it is going to hurt foreign students involved in NSA international programs.

LAST NIGHT, NATHANSON said he thinks the NSA-CIA relationship is not an "atrocious" act because "three-fourths of the student movements in other countries" have their own form of the CIA aiding them.

Delin said it would be stretching a point to say that NSA was the "cornerstone" of information needed by the CIA.

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